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'LAWLESS' NEEDS MORE ORDER {page 16}

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Specter 'intends to win' new battle with cancer

Philly's political icon, 81, already beat cancer years ago, but he remains hospitalized with reported 'big flare up' in new form of cancer Friends expect that former US senator 'has one more great fight still in him' {page 04}

GETTY IMAGES

Sports. College football

Temple University football coach Steve Addazio is pumped to begin a new season this Friday. They are again in the Big East after seven years' hiatus. {Page 21}

news

African leader on new power and prosperity

Rwanda's president gives Metro exclusive interview
Country seeks seat on UN Security Council {pages 10-11}

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Philly needs airbags

City ranks 195th out of 200 American cities in new survey of safest drivers ◗ Study cites high volume as one possible reason ◗ Metro looks at human causes for our crash-prone ways

Philadelphia ranked sixth-worst for safe drivers among the country's 200 largest cities, according to an annual report from Allstate Insurance Company.

The report, based on Allstate claims data, ranks the cities according to car collision frequency. According to the report, the national average is one collision every 10 years. The average Philadelphia motorist is involved in an accident every 6.1 years, making them 64 percent more likely to get into an accident than the average driver.

Washington, D.C., has the country's worst drivers, according to the report, with the average driver in the nation's capital getting into a collision once every 4.7 years.

"In big cities, there tend to be more people [and] more traffic, so that leads to a higher volume of accidents," said Allstate spokeswoman Julia Reusch, noting that the company does not track the causes of collisions.

The safest city? Sioux Falls, S.D., where drivers average a collision once every 13.8 years. It is the fifth year the city has held the top spot in the report's eight-year history. As expected, the cities with the lowest rate of collisions were those with smaller populations.

Among cities with more than 750,000 people, Indianapolis ranked highest at No. 60, with an average of one accident every 10.1 years. Chicago, Houston, New York and Los Angeles, all of which have larger populations than Philadelphia, finished ahead of the City of Brotherly Love in the report.

Despite the collision data, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has reported that fatal car crashes are at the lowest level since 1949 yet still average more than 32,000 every year.

▶ This happens 64 percent more often to Philly drivers than to average American drivers.

RICARD LARMA/METRO

Quoted

"In big cities, there tend to be more people [and] more traffic, so that leads to a higher volume of accidents."

REUSCH

7.5

The average number of years between collisions for drivers in Pennsylvania's second-largest city, Pittsburgh. According to the report, residents in the Steel City are 33 percent more likely to be involved in an accident than the average driver.

SOLOMON D. LEACH
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Navigating safely

Allstate offers the following tips for driving in big cities like Philadelphia:

- Allow plenty of time to reach your destination. Stop-and-go traffic, gridlock, traffic signal stops, pedestrian walkways and events that create traffic detours can add time to your travel.
- Know what's happening in the city during the time you're driving. Find out if there are events that may impact traffic, and listen to traffic reports on your car radio. Avoid traffic jams or explore alternative routes, if possible.
- Stay alert. Be prepared to frequently stop or slow down for pedestrians, emergency vehicles, delivery trucks, parking cars, taxi cabs and public transportation vehicles such as city buses.
- Get directions to where you're going. Review directions carefully in advance. If you get lost mid-trip, safely pull over and wait until you feel calm enough to get back on the road, using that time to get directions, check traffic or call for help.

Strange Philly streets

Five examples of why Philadelphia drivers are unsafe:

1. **Armed and dangerous:** A Mayfair man was arrested last month after he allegedly pointed a crossbow at another driver during a road-rage incident.
2. **Wreck chasers:** A Discovery Channel reality show documented Philadelphia's crazy tow truck underworld. Violent encounters between rival tow companies have been well-documented. A driver was murdered in 2010.
3. **Off-road vehicles:** Cops have started cracking down on those who ride all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes through local streets like it's the outback.
4. **Resume your yapping:** Good ole state lawmakers preempted the city's ban on handheld cellphones with a state law that's nearly impossible to enforce. Thank you.
5. **Rough roads:** Who has time to watch out for other cars when you're trying to avoid driving into that big sink hole?

RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Staying alert on busy city streets is a key to avoiding crashes.

In the news

Tax returns for favors

A former Internal Revenue Service employee was arrested yesterday for obstructing an investigation into alleged misconduct. Clare Toohey, 54, of Philadelphia, a former lead contact representative, is accused of preparing tax returns in exchange for gifts, compensation and favors between 2007 and 2011 – a violation of IRS rules – and then asking potential witnesses to lie, federal prosecutors said. METRO

In the news

Violent crew pleads guilty

Four men involved in a series of home invasion robberies were sentenced yesterday, with sentences ranging from five years to 20 years in prison. Buu Huu Truong, Den Van Nguyen, Thach Van Nguyen and Sidney Biggs previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery for the crimes in 2009 and 2010 in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland.

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Specter battling cancer yet again

Former U.S. senator Arlen Specter yesterday confirmed media reports that he has been diagnosed with a serious illness and is reportedly hospitalized at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

"I am battling cancer, and it's another battle I intend to win," Specter said yesterday in a brief statement issued by his office. "I am grateful for the well wishes I have received, and I am looking forward to getting back to work, to the comedy stage, to the squash court and to the ballpark."

Specter, the longest-serving senator from Pennsylvania, battled a brain tumor in 1993 and again in 1996 and was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma in 2005. But his current hospitalization is reportedly due to a new form of cancer with which he was diagnosed six weeks ago, though his family is guarding the details.

U.S. Rep. Pat Meehan, who once worked on Specter's staff, described him as a tenacious and fierce advocate who engages challenges head-on. "He's demonstrated this in times past, where he has relied on that kind of inner fight and has survived a number of other health scares that may have bested other people," Meehan said yesterday. "I'm hoping he has one more great fight still in him."

Specter began his political career in the early 1960s as a member of the Warren Commission that investigated President John F. Kennedy's assassination. He became a member of the U.S. Senate as a Republican in 1980 but switched his party affiliation to Democrat in 2009.

Specter lost the Democratic primary to Joe Sestak when he ran for re-election two years later, returning to his law practice and becoming a professor a the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
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RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Specter, with his wife Joan, after his 2010 primary loss.

Top notches

In his nearly five decades on the national stage, Arlen Specter's quick wit and no-holds-barred comments provided plenty of political fodder. Here moments for which he is best known.

When Specter was appointed to the Warren Commission to investigate the assassination of John F. Kennedy, he co-authored the "single bullet theory," suggesting the same bullet struck then-governor John Connally and hit Kennedy. The theory explained how two men could have been wounded in such a time span by a single shooter.

After serving the U.S. Senate as a Republican for nearly 30 years, Specter announced in 2009 that he was switching party affiliations and would run for reelection in 2010 as a Democrat. "I now find my political philosophy more in line with Democrats than Republicans," he said in a statement, also noting the Republicans had moved too far to the right.

After his retirement, Specter debuted on a different stage, performing stand-up comedy at open-mic nights and improv clubs in New York City and Philadelphia.

Quoted

"He never had a problem standing up to his party. His fortitude was very strong."

PAT EIDING, PRESIDENT OF THE AFL-CIO PHILADELPHIA COUNCIL

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Culture. Bulls on the loose

▶ Some victims suffered direct contact with the bull, while others were hurt as the crowd attempted to run away.

YOUTUBE

Four rodeo bulls wreak havoc at Pa. fair

Four bulls got loose as they were being loaded onto a trailer at the fair in Susquehanna County shortly before 11 p.m. Three of those animals were immediately captured, while one went on a rampage around the fairgrounds. Ten people were taken to area hospitals – nine via ambulance and one in a helicopter — with injuries ranging from minor to moderate. METRO

Abortion gaffe strikes Sen. Casey's challenger

The Republican challenger to U.S. Sen. Bob Casey in the November election on Monday suggested that a woman who was impregnated by a rapist faces a similar decision to one contemplating whether to give birth to a child out of wedlock.

But Tom Smith, who opposes abortion in all circumstances, almost immediately sought to clarify his comments, saying he didn't intend to compare out-of-wedlock pregnancy to one resulting from rape.

His comments and the attention they attracted came just eight days after another Republican Senate nominee, Todd Akin of Missouri, said victims of "legitimate rape" rarely become pregnant. Akin also opposes abortion in all circumstances.

Smith's comments in Harrisburg, Penn., were in response to a question about how he would react if a rapist impregnated his daughter or granddaughter, according to the Associated Press.

▶ Smith

"No, no, no, but, well, put yourself in a father's position. Yes, I mean, it is similar, this isn't, but I'm back to the original. I'm pro-life — period."

SMITH, CLARIFYING AN EARLIER STATEMENT COMPARING PREGNANCIES OUT OF WEDLOCK AND FROM RAPE

"I lived something similar to that with my own family, and she chose the life, and I commend her for that," Smith said to reporters at the Pennsylvania Press Club, according to the Associated Press. "She chose the way I thought."

He said the similarity was that the family member had "a baby out of wedlock."

His communications director, Megan Piwowar, wrote in a statement: "Tom Smith is committed to protecting the sanctity of life and believes it begins at conception. While his answers to some of the questions he faced at the Pennsylvania Press Club may have been less than artful, at no time did he draw the comparison that some have inferred. When questioned if he was drawing that comparison, Tom's answer was clear: 'No, no, no.'"

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Arctic ice retreats to record low

Satellite pictures show that on Aug. 26, 2012, Arctic sea ice had shrunk to the smallest size in recorded history, 27,000 square miles below the previous record. Worryingly, NASA analysts say this has not been a warm summer, and that the "core" ice cover has been diminished, making it more vulnerable. Weeks of melt season remain.

13
The percentage decline in Arctic ice levels each decade, according to Nasa statistics.

"The effects of greenhouse warming are now coming through loud and clear," a spokesman for the National Snow and Ice Data Center announced when the record low was broken on Sept. 18, 2007. However, unusual atmospheric patterns and a hot summer partly explained the figures, which improved the following year. MWN

GETTY IMAGES NASA

▶ NASA satellite picture of Arctic ice retreat in August 2012.

What to expect

If current trends continue, we could be in for the follow unpleasant consequences.

- **Rising tides.** Analysts predict average sea levels could rise by over 23 inches to 2100, but would impact more heavily on land such as Pacific islands or the Gulf Of Mexico.
- **Extinction.** Arctic species are on the front line and vanishing ice is a serious threat. Certain penguin species have declined by 80% since 1975.
- **Methane release.** Arctic ice plays a vital role in storing methane gas, which causes more environmental damage than carbon dioxide.
- **Temperature rises.** The Arctic temperature could rise by 15 degrees Fahrenheit by the century's end, with increases around the world and freak weather conditions.

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WORLD EXCLUSIVE: PRESIDENT OF RWANDA

Paul Kagame

The United Nations, based in New York City, is the world's parliament. Metro, as one of the biggest newspapers in the city, today begins a series of interviews with leading political figures on important issues. In a world exclusive, Metro speaks to Paul Kagame, the president of Rwanda, an ally of the U.S.

His government stands accused by a U.N. Group of Experts of fomenting rebellion in diamond- and gold-rich eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a charge Kagame denies. Into this volatile mix of political charge and counter-charge, Rwanda is poised to take up a coveted seat on the U.N. Security Council.

Kagame: We are not interfering in neighboring countries Head of the UN Group of Experts is labeled 'partisan political activist' Claims of human rights abuses driven by 'unaccountable advocacy groups'

Quoted

"We do not like to be lectured by unaccountable advocacy groups ... about how to protect the rights of our citizens."
PAUL KAGAME

▶ Paul Kagame is president of the Republic of Rwanda.

The last time Rwanda sat as a member of the United Nations Security Council was in 1994. It was between April and July of that year — more than 100 days — that more than 1 million mainly ethnic Tutsis were slaughtered in a genocide overseen by a regime whose representative the U.N. told the world to look the other way.

Almost two decades later, Rwanda, a strong ally of the United States and Israel, is again seeking a seat at the U.N. Security Council.

This time the government is led by President Paul Kagame, who led forces that liberated Rwanda's capital, Kigali, and brought a halt to the genocide in 1994. Well-disposed Western visitors to Rwanda include former President Bill Clinton, former U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair and Starbucks boss Howard Schultz.

Rwanda's prospective elevation to the Security Council is not without its critics, especially in light of recent accusations that President Kagame's government is providing illicit support to an armed mutiny in the neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo. Kagame vehemently denies the claims, but this hasn't stopped several donor countries suspending aid to Rwanda.

Since 1994, when the fleeing genocidal forces escaped to the lawless eastern part of Congo, relations between the neighbors have been fraught. Nonetheless, Kagame insists that Rwanda plays no part in the current crisis in the DRC — claiming he has no interest in 'costly, pointless foreign adventures' that divert his country's progress from the world's poorest country 20 years ago to one of Africa's most dynamic countries today.

On the cusp of your nation's Security Council membership, an addendum to a United Nations report by the Group of Experts accused Rwanda of unacceptable interference in the mineral-rich eastern part of the DRC, where lawless militia and illicit business interests rule, for failure of control of a weak central Congolese government. How do you respond to these accusations?

These accusations are not true. Our national priorities have to be directed toward our country's development, not toward foreign ventures, in particular illicit ones. The history and national interest of Rwanda and the Rwandan people dictate our national orientation. Our country experienced the horrors of genocide only 18 years ago. Since then, on the basis of a policy of national reconciliation, more than 1 million of our people have been lifted out of poverty, over 90 percent of Rwandans are covered by health insurance and we are ranked by World Bank Doing Business as the third easiest place to do business in Africa, under conditions of low corruption according to Transparency International. We have established wonderful partnerships with development partners. We're attempting to rebuild the structures of our society in a way whereby every Rwandan has a stake in our future.

Many commentators, including the U.N. Group of Experts on the DRC, seem to believe historical and cultural ties to the rebel groups make it inevitable that Rwanda will get involved. You worked with these groups before, and you share ethnic and language heritage with them. Don't you see how this causes suspicion?

There's a habit in the West to view Africa and our region in particular through the outdated and erroneous prism of tribalism and ethnicity. Because there are Congolese of Rwandan origin, such as those you referred to in your questions, who rebel against the Congolese government, people jump to the conclusions that Rwanda must be complicit in supporting them. Modern Rwanda rejects this primitive outlook. We embrace our Rwandan national identity and we will pursue our national interest irrespective of events in neighboring countries, regardless of so-called tribal affiliations. The new Rwanda is about building an economy that delivers prosperity and opportunity for our citizens based on a robust private sector. Foreign adventures would be costly and counterproductive distractions from these challenging objectives.

We simply cannot support a rebellion outside our border.

The Rwandan people, put to the sword perhaps like no other in the last 50 years, know the value of peace. So do I.

Rwanda has come in for a lot of criticism from human rights groups for alleged support for rebel groups like M23 as well as broader criticisms over your record on media and political freedoms. What is your response to these criticisms?

I understand that human rights groups are locked in a fierce competition for big checks from wealthy donors and they need to generate big headlines. We do not like to be lectured to by unaccountable advocacy groups acting for their financiers about how to protect the rights of our

Rwanda time line

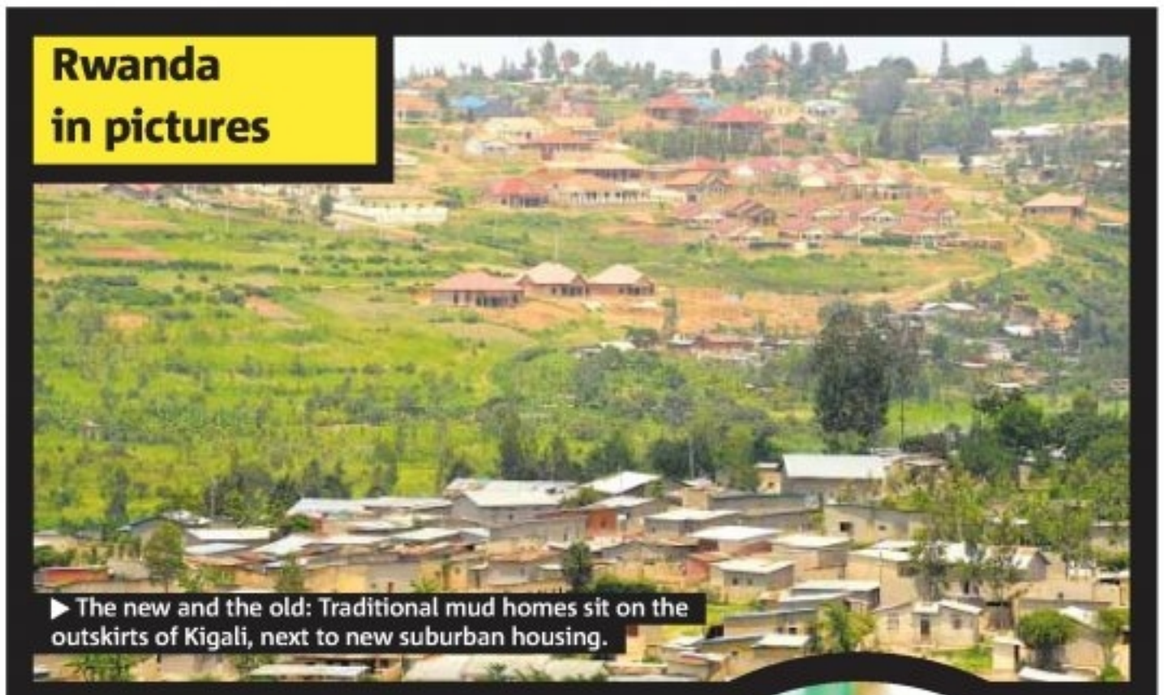
Rwanda experienced colonialism before it gained independence from Belgium in 1962. Decades of ethnic division followed:

- **1973-1986:** Hutu president Juvenal Habyarimana runs an effective one-party state until the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front is formed.
- **Oct. 1990:** RPF guerrillas invade Rwanda from neighboring Uganda. A ceasefire is signed in March 1991.
- **August 1993:** Habyarimana and the RPF sign a peace accord allowing for a coalition government.
- **Jan. 10, 1994:** General Romeo Dallaire, head of U.N. peacekeepers in Rwanda, sends a cable to New York warning of impending genocide. He is ordered to do nothing.
- **April 6, 1994:** Habyarimana dies when his plane is shot down at Kigali. Radio Television Libres Des Mille Collines blames "Tutsi cockroaches." The killing of Tutsis begins.
- **April 11, 1994:** Belgian UN peacekeepers withdraw, abandoning 5,000 Tutsis, almost all of whom are killed.
- **April 30, 1994:** The U.N. Security Council spends eight hours discussing the situation. It omits the word "genocide" in a resolution.
- **July 1994:** The Tutsi-dominated RPF captures Kigali. Nearly 1 million, mainly Tutsis, are dead after 100 days.
- **March 2000:** Paul Kagame becomes president of Rwanda.
- **2000-2012:** Rwanda produces exceptional economic growth and levels of healthcare. It is praised by Western governments as a model of stability in Africa.
- **2000-2012:** But the U.N. claims persist that it is fomenting rebellion in neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo, where Hutu extremists behind the 1994 genocide are said to have fled.
- **2012:** Rwanda is expected to join the U.N. Security Council.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Images of genocide victims at the Kigalo Genocide Memorial

Rwanda in pictures



▶ The new and the old: Traditional mud homes sit on the outskirts of Kigali, next to new suburban housing.

Rwanda faces criticism.

▶ Rwanda is cited as a model of African stability.

Q&A

The New York Times quoted a report by a human rights group accusing you of running a repressive regime. How do you answer those claims?

They are mainly talking about laws related to genocide ideology, which I am more than happy to defend. Rwandans will not tolerate voices that promote a return to the ethnic divisionism that precipitated the genocide 18 years ago. To that extent, we place limits on freedom of expression in a similar way to how much of Europe has made it a crime to deny the Holocaust. Aside from that, Rwanda is a very open and free country. Key to our recovery as a nation has a range of grassroots, citizen-centered polices we call "homegrown solutions." The idea that Rwanda is highly controlled from the center belies the reality, which is that citizens in every village have a powerful say in how things get done. We prize accountability and Rwandans are quickly adapting themselves to the possibilities of a digital economy. A lot of this talk of repression results from outdated stereotypes about Africa.

the U.N. Group of Experts — which in an addendum to its own report has accused Rwanda of fomenting unrest in eastern Congo — as having an impermissibly "benign view" of people who carried out the 1994 genocide. Is this still your view?

We understand that experts come to the table with a variety of preconceived ideas and opinions. We accept that, in some cases, this will work against Rwanda's interests. But there is a point at which this translates into outright bias. In the case of the Coordinator of the Group of Experts, he has crossed the line from expert to partisan political activist. His anti-Rwandan views are well on the record and both the methodology and falsehoods that have found their way into the offensive addendum to the report conform to his unacceptable views. In his prior writings this coordinator appeared as an apologist for a group of Congo-based extremist militants who have repeatedly been sanctioned by the U.N. Security Council and whose leaders are the same leaders which factually led the genocide and were labeled terrorist by the U.S. State Department.

It is completely unacceptable for a person with this history to sit in judgment on Rwanda or any other country for that matter. It's really all quite extraordinary. Rwanda will not let this matter stand.

Western governments, including the U.S., have withheld aid to Rwanda over M23 daims. What do you see as the consequences?

Some countries have reacted to this very flawed U.N. report by temporarily suspending aid funding to Rwanda. This is regrettable, because we place a high value on good relations with development partners. But we are confident that these funds will be unfrozen once we tell our side of the story. It is a timely reminder to Rwandans that we still have some way to travel as a nation before we are truly independent. Strong economic growth, and especially a significant increase in private sector investment, is the only sustainable path forward for Rwanda. The donors as recipients can undermine aid effectiveness just as easily, and this is exactly what happens when countries use the development dollar as a weapon to impose political will on smaller and less powerful countries.

Rwanda is said to have economic interests in Eastern Congo: You are accused of looting mineral resources in the DRC.

This is a persistent myth. Rwanda leads the region in stamping out illegal trade in minerals. We have a functioning mineral certification process. We play by the rules. Recently we handed back to the DRC 80 tons of minerals that had been smuggled into Rwanda. Our geographic position dictates that our economic interests are best served by a stable and prosperous DRC, because under such conditions, Rwanda would benefit greatly from increased trade and legitimate transit of Congolese minerals. To this end, Rwanda supports the establishment of a so-called "Neutral Force" which has been agreed between the 11 member states of the International Conference of the Great Lakes region in Africa. This is a homegrown solution to a regional border problem.

Rwanda has been described as the "Israel of Africa." What similarities do you see between the two? And what lessons can you learn from Israel, especially in dealings with the U.N.?

Like Israel, we live in a difficult neighborhood. We understand that national security is vital for economic and social progress. Our sense of national purpose has been forged in unfathomable tragedy. We also have in common critics who attack our fundamental legitimacy, or even our very right to exist. Israel and Rwanda both play an active part in international organizations, including the U.N., but I think it's true that our unique experiences as nations have shaped a fierce independence that we will not relinquish. ● METRO

The U.N. responds

Metro yesterday contacted the United Nations and put President Kagame's remarks concerning the Coordinator of the Group of Experts to the U.N. for response.

- A spokesperson for the office of the U.N. Secretary General said that members of the panel of experts, such as the GoE, were independent "and we trust them to do a professional job."
- The report of the Group of Experts concerning the Democratic Republic of Congo, which contained references to Rwanda, had been presented to the Security Council, which would review its contents and make any necessary judgments.
- Metro made two further calls yesterday to the U.N. seeking contact with Steve Hege, the Coordinator of the Group of Experts, to put President Kagame's points to him directly. The UN said it was 'not standard practice to refer members of the Group of Experts to the media.'

citizens. Human rights are not the preserve of Western activists: The definition must extend to encompass the right to the dignified life; the right to send your kids to school, for that child to get health care, for access for greater prosperity for generations to come and to have a say in the destiny of your community and country. Under that definition, Rwanda has nothing to learn from advocacy groups who think they own the copyright on what constitutes human rights under all conditions in every corner of the world.

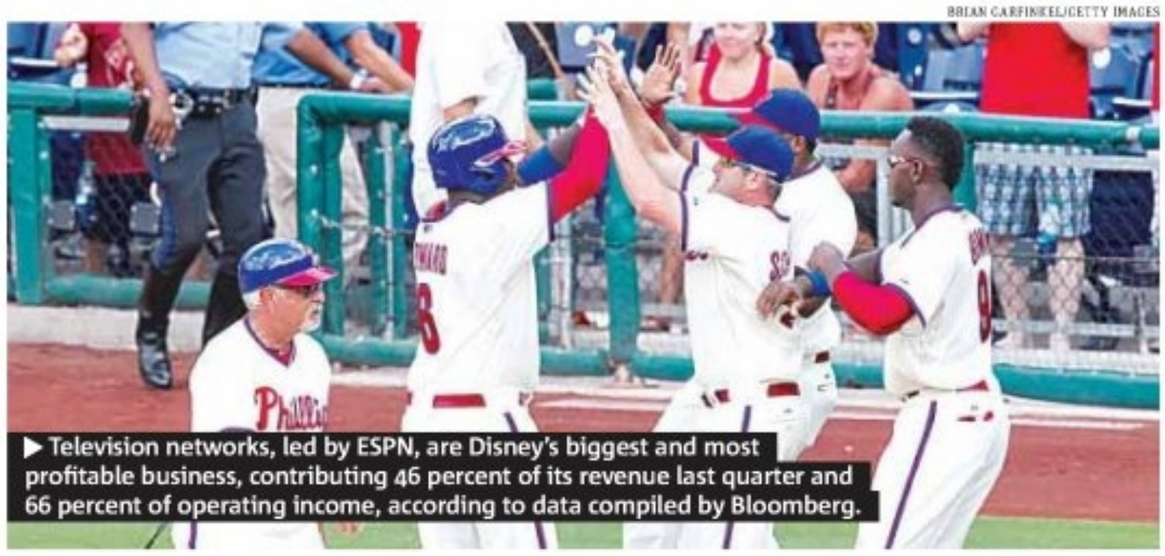
Your government is reported to view Steve Hege, Coordinator of

Quoted

"The Rwandan people, put to the sword perhaps like no other in the last 50 years, know the value of peace. So do I." PAUL KAGAME

ESPN reaches $5.6 billion deal to expand MLB coverage

BRIAN GARFINKEL/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Television networks, led by ESPN, are Disney's biggest and most profitable business, contributing 46 percent of its revenue last quarter and 66 percent of operating income, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

ESPN reached a new eight-year deal with Major League Baseball, extending the cable network's rights to more games, studio programming and online coverage through 2021.

The network will spend $5.6 billion, about double what it currently pays baseball for domestic and international TV rights, digital programming and radio coverage, according to a person with knowledge of the situation who wasn't authorized to speak publicly.

ESPN, the dominant sports channel, extended its commitment to baseball as it confronts stepped-up competition from NBC and CBS cable networks and a potential new entrant from Fox.

As media companies bid up the price of TV rights, cable carriers have resisted absorbing the added costs, leading to contract disputes and blackouts.

"The enormous scope of what we acquired will provide fans with more live baseball and more ways to access baseball content than ever before," John Skipper, ESPN's president, said in the statement.

Under the accord, the Bristol, Conn.-based sports cable network will gain rights to 10 additional regular season games and more footage highlights for use in multiple media, the league and ESPN said today in a statement. The network will also face fewer blackouts where local channels also have rights. **BLOOMBERG**

Wild-card

The deal also gives ESPN rights to one annual wild-card game and any tiebreakers that may occur.

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New Orleans in line of fire, seven years after Katrina

Tropical Storm Isaac strengthened into a hurricane just off the U.S. Gulf Coast yesterday, lashing the New Orleans area with strong winds and heavy rain seven years after the city was devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Isaac's storm surge could pose a major test of New Orleans' new flood control systems and reinforced levees. Forecasts from the U.S. National Hurricane Center showed the storm coming ashore in the Mississippi Delta late yesterday, possibly taking direct aim at the so-called Crescent City.

"Isaac has finally formed into a hurricane, so we are officially in the fight, and the city of New Orleans is on the front lines," New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu told reporters.

"Isaac has finally formed into a hurricane, so we are officially in the fight, and the city of New Orleans is on the front lines."
NEW ORLEANS MAYOR MITCH LANDRIEU TOLD REPORTERS

"Citizens have to be prepared. I'm going to ask you to hunker down," Landrieu said as hundreds of U.S. Army National Guard troops took up strategic positions around New Orleans.

Brandishing automatic assault rifles to ward off any threat of looting, the troops in military vehicles took up positions on mostly deserted streets. Their arrival came as driving rain and stiff winds began battering the city's iconic French Quarter.

Earlier, the Army Corps of Engineers closed for the first time the massive new floodgate on the largest storm-surge barrier in the world, at Lake Borgne, east of New Orleans.

In other preparations, oil production in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico ground to a near halt and coastal refineries curtailed operations as Isaac neared the Louisiana coastline. **REUTERS**

JAMES NIELSON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Sandbags protect a storefront on Canal Street in preparation for Hurricane Isaac yesterday in New Orleans.

$14.5 billion flood defense

After Katrina, the Corps of Engineers built a $14.5 billion flood defense system of walls, floodgates, levees and pumps designed to protect the city against a massive tidal surge like the one that swamped New Orleans in Katrina's wake.

The floodgate that closed yesterday is 26 feet (8 meters) high and 1.8 miles (2.9 km) long. It was designed to prevent the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal from breaching its walls, as it did in 2005, inundating the Lower Ninth Ward, Gentilly and New Orleans East neighborhoods, and St. Bernard Parish.

Most of the Lower Ninth was deserted and quiet by lunchtime yesterday. **REUTERS**

Hurricane Isaac unlikely to match Katrina's destruction

JAMES NIELSEN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans seven years ago.

NOAA VIA GETTY IMAGES

▶ Katrina, Aug. 28, 2005

NEWSEUM

KATRINA: THE STORM WE'VE ALWAYS FEARED
The Times-Picayune
CATASTROPHIC
STORM SURGE SWAMPS 9TH WARD, ST. BERNARD
LAKEVIEW LEVEE BREACH THREATENS TO INUNDATE CITY

▶ The Times-Picayune cover

Hurricane Isaac is likely to cause substantial flooding along the U.S. Gulf Coast, but losses should be a fraction of what they were when Hurricane Katrina plowed the same path in 2005, disaster experts said yesterday.

If anything, Isaac may draw closer parallels to last year's Hurricane Irene, which ended up primarily causing economic losses from inland flooding throughout the northeastern and New England states.

Some coastal areas could see up to 13 feet of storm surge from Isaac — the water that a tropical cyclone pushes forward as it comes on land — according to the latest National Hurricane Center estimates. Even well inland, as far north as Indiana by some projections, heavy rains are likely too.

13 ft.
Some coastal areas could see up to 13 feet of storm surge from Isaac

Even inland, where some farm states are expecting six inches of rain from Isaac's remnants, this summer's crushing drought means rivers and reservoirs are below normal, giving them greater capacity than usual to absorb floodwaters.

AIR Worldwide, a major disaster modelers for the insurance industry, said the story of Isaac has been one of missed expectations.

"The potential is there for this to be a stronger storm, but ever since this thing was in the Caribbean it has not lived up to that potential at all," said Tim Doggett, the company's principal scientist. **REUTERS**

Comparison

- Katrina caused more than 25 feet of storm surge and more than $21 billion in surge losses, most of which were uninsured.
- Not only is Isaac smaller, but coastal defenses are in many cases stronger than they were seven years ago, leaving damage experts much less concerned.
- "Isaac is taking a similar track as Katrina but significantly lower winds ... a lot lower storm surge and wave heights," said Tom Larsen, senior vice president at disaster modeler Eqecat, in an interview. "The expected damage is very low because most of the storm attributes are within designs."

myentertainment

2

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

@JimGaffigan
Can we start calling earbuds thong ear muffs?

@bobsaget
The only thing you get to pick in life is your boogers.

@Rosie (Rosie O'Donnell)
Oh my god I lost 10 lbs already eating plant based food !!!

@DougBenson
I'd watch Piers Morgan if celebrity guests came on and interviewed a chair Piers Morgan wasn't in.

Saget

Lohan a suspect in theft — yes, again

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Although her name was initially cleared, **Lindsay Lohan** is now officially a suspect in the theft of $100,000 worth of valuables from a Hollywood home.

Last week, police were called to the home of **Sam Magid** after Lohan, her assistant and others spent the night partying. Here's where things get messy, even by Lohan standards: Magid claimed that insanely expensive sunglasses and watches were missing, but later recanted his story. Then, on Monday, two of Lohan's friends — including **Andrew Knight**, son of hip-hop mogul **Suge Knight** — stopped by Magid's house with some of the stolen items that they claim Lohan gave them, reports TMZ.

What's Lohan have to say for herself? Quite a bit. According to TMZ, she claims that she was in an Ambien fog that night but does remember hiding jewelry, watches and Tiffany silverware out of fear they would be stolen by other guests. As for anything that actually did walk off, she blames Knight.

Lohan's father, **Michael Lohan**, is calling the accusation against his daughter an unfair "witch hunt" — presumably because he forgets she stole a necklace from a high-end jewelry store last year, resulting in a months-long, soul-crushing courtroom circus. Must be nice, Michael. Must be nice.

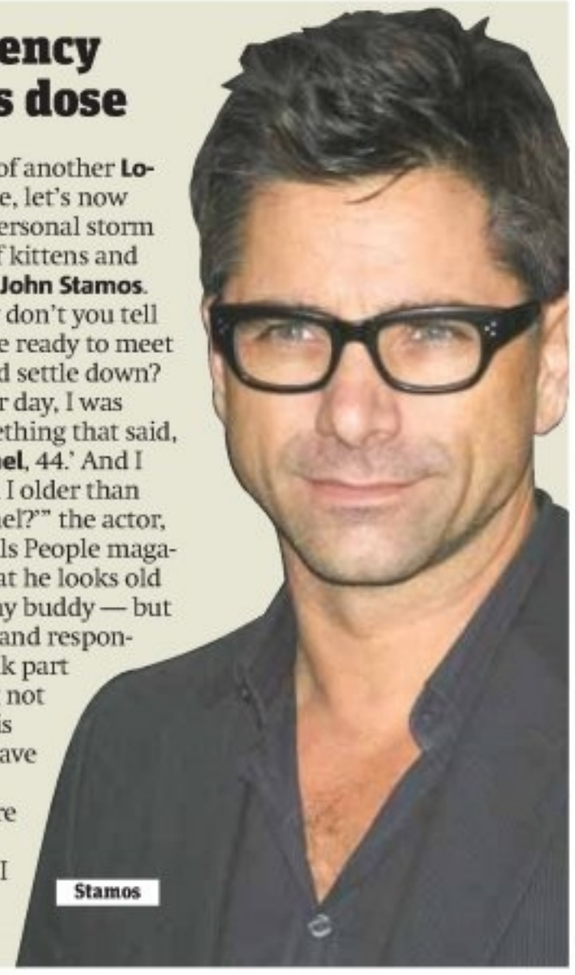
▶ Lohan has her criminal chic look down by now.

Emergency Stamos dose

In the midst of another **Lohan** hurricane, let's now turn to our personal storm shelter full of kittens and pizza bagels, **John Stamos**.

John, why don't you tell us how you're ready to meet a nice girl and settle down?

"The other day, I was reading something that said, '**Jimmy Kimmel**, 44.' And I was like, 'Am I older than Jimmy Kimmel?'" the actor, who is 49, tells People magazine. "Not that he looks old — Jimmy's my buddy — but he's got kids and responsibility. I think part of me feeling not so adult-like is that I don't have those pillars that say you're an adult. I'm not married, I don't have kids."



Stamos

Brand spices up his life

We're beginning to think that **Russell Brand** has a type.

A month after finalizing his divorce from **Katy Perry**, the comedian is linked to none other than **Geri Halliwell** — aka **Ginger Spice**, the original pop star to declare pants optional.

Halliwell and Brand were spotted at the Olympics together — and while she won't talk about her relationship, she does admit there's something going on. "I'm not going into details," she tells Hello! Magazine. "Right now there's nothing serious."

Talking points

Is there a Prince Harry video?

Prince Harry's headaches over his naked romp in Las Vegas earlier this month may not be over, as Radar Online is reporting that a video of the incident could end up online shortly — for the right price. "There is video of Harry partying naked with women in the Las Vegas hotel room. There have been some very quiet inquiries to see how much the video is worth," a source says. "The video has not been shopped around yet. With all the attention the photos got, the people with the video know it could be worth a fortune."

▶ Prince Harry has a lot of photos ops to go.

Amanda Bynes, go to your room right now

Amanda Bynes' most recent hit-and-run incident has led investigators to renew their interest in a similar accident involving the actress from earlier this year, according to Hollyscoop. "Both of Amanda Bynes' hit and run cases are under review right now. I cannot say that we re-opened the original hit-and-run case, because it was never closed," a spokesman for the L.A. City Attorney's office tells the website. "She has not been charged with anything as of yet. No dates have been set for arraignment or anything else with Amanda at this time." Both incidents — one in April and one in August — involve Bynes rear-ending another car and then fleeing the scene.

Osbourne has help managing his MS

Jack Osbourne was recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, but fiance **Lisa Stelly** is helping him live with the disease. "Lisa makes sure he's healthy — eating right and exercising," a friend tells Us Weekly. "They love staying active as a family." The couple has a daughter, 4-month-old Pearl.

TV watch list

'Necessary Roughness'

DRAMA. As the season opener approaches, Dani and the team face disaster — mostly in the form of guest star Michael Imperioli, who plays a hard-partying pal of TK. **Summer finale, 10 p.m., USA**

'Futurama'

COMEDY. In the two-part finale, Bender develops a passion for hunting, and the crewmembers are reborn as wild animals — not in the same episode, though we're sure the robot has a few words for his meat-bag companions in both half-hours, regardless. **Midseason finale, 10 p.m., Comedy Central**

AMBER RAY

Donald Faison can't hardly wait

The former 'Scrubs' star talks about his upcoming wedding and reuniting on camera with Zach Braff

Think you've had a bad roommate experience? It probably can't top that of actor Donald Faison.

"One of my roommates stole $1,000 dollars from me, forged a check with my name," says the star of TV Land's "The Exes," which centers on a group of divorced men whose neighbor is their divorce attorney — and landlord. "That would be really awesome if I could say, 'Yeah, somebody ate my sandwich,' but no, that's not [what happened]."

After nine years playing goofy surgeon Turk on "Scrubs," Faison is now in the shoes of lothario Phil on "The Exes" — but don't assume that art imitates life in this situation.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ "The Exes," starring Donald Faison, airs Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m. on TV Land.

"I wish I could say I was a ladies man, but I'm not," the actor says. "I got married young, I had kids young. I should have lived a little but I didn't. But it's easy to play a ladies man on television — you'll never get shot down, unless the scene calls for it."

Not that he needs to worry about the ladies in real life: Faison is engaged to longtime love CaCee Cobb, but is "not deep into wedding planning," he says. "We're just having a great time being engaged."

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

Welcome back, Zach

On tonight's episode of "The Exes," Faison welcomes his former "Scrubs" co-star Zach Braff to the show. (Braff plays "the Roger Federer of our realm," Faison explains.) Faison says he and Braff "hang out all the time," and it was easy for them to fall back into the onscreen groove.

"Because our friendship is so strong, maybe that's why it's so easy to [work together]," Faison says. "There was always that, 'If only we could find another way to get us together,' and we found it. And who knew TV Land had the power to do it?"

Quoted

"I'll be honest: If he really wants to come back to the multicam sitcom, it's a way for him to go. He'd crush it."

DONALD FAISON, ON ACTOR AND FRIEND ZACH BRAFF

Faison would be glad to see Braff to come back to their set — or other TV sets, for that matter.

"I'll be honest: If he really wanted to come back to the multicam sitcom, it's a way for him to go. He'd crush it."

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'Lawless': Not so flawless

Oscar season begins early with a new film from the director of 'The Road' Something about this Prohibition-era tale doesn't quite gel

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▶ Tom Hardy is one of the Bondurant boys in "Lawless."

In this tale, the three brothers Bondurant supply their Virginia county with a special brand of moonshine during Prohibition. Based on "The Wettest County in the World" — a fictionalized account of author Matt Bondurant's grandfather and his brothers — the story was written for the screen by musician Nick Cave. As with many book adaptations, there is a meandering quality to the film. Sometimes those fondest of the material shouldn't be left to decide what lands on the cutting room floor — because more often than not, nothing does.

We're introduced to the characters — Shia LaBeouf as the smart-but-cowardly youngest brother, Jason Clarke as the drunken, brute force of the group and Tom Hardy as the brains of the operation. A new deputy (Guy Pearce) comes to town, aiming to crack down on the bootlegging — or at least receive a tithing for turning a blind eye — but the brothers are defiant.

If you go

▶ **'Lawless'**
Director: John Hillcoat
Cast: Tom Hardy, Shia LaBeouf, Guy Pearce
Rating: R
Grade: ●●●○○

We know this conflict will come to a head at some point — but in the meantime, the film dallies with LaBeouf and Mia Wasikowska (as a chaste local girl) making eyes at each other, and Jessica Chastain smoking butts behind the brothers' restaurant counter. There are moments of shockingly graphic violence and those in which Pearce's sneer is truly chilling — and Hardy's subtle performance is charming. But the film is neither a character study nor a Western nor a good-guys-versus-bad-guys caper. It's not enough of any one thing to amount to something great.

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myentertainment

The comeback kid

Sidescroller

LAWRENCE BONK
LAWRENCE.BONK@METRO.US

Sony's portable powerhouse, Vita, has been struggling to connect with consumers since its launch in February. Analysts blame this on smartphones and tablets, claiming there is just no room for dedicated gaming machines in this world. Fire those guys. The Vita just needs more games, and here they come.

'LittleBigPlanet Vita'
Console: Sony
Grade: ●●●●●
On the surface this is a repetitive, yet charming, sidescrolling platform title. The fun really begins, however, once you dig deep into the incredible level-making mechanic. Making and playing user-created levels is so fun it just might make you barf (in a good way).

'Sound Shapes'
Console: Sony
Grade: ●●●●◐
"Sound Shapes" marries gorgeous, minimal design with a love and appreciation for music. Each level is based on a song, some crafted by luminaries such as Beck and deadmau5.

▶ "LittleBigPlanet" is more than a charming, sidescrolling platform title.

The game comes packed with a rudimentary, but useful, audio creation tool.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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Health notes

Paleo pointers

Curious about diving into a paleo diet? Get all your questions answered tomorrow at **Crossfit Center City** (11229 Chestnut St., in the basement), where author Melissa Joulwan will be signing copies of her book "Well Fed: Paleo Recipes for People Who Love to Eat." Attendees will learn about Joulwan's espousal of the plan and leave with a goody bag full of paleo-friendly foods. The free event is from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Get out and race

If you're bored with your usual 5K, consider entering this year's **Great Urban Race**, taking over Philly next Saturday. Part scavenger hunt, part race, the course will have you scouring Philly landmarks for clues, solving puzzles and completing physical challenges (you might find yourself kayaking or rope-climbing along the way). The first, second and third place finishers win cash, and the first 25 teams to complete the race will earn a spot in the National Championship race in Las Vegas for a chance at $10,000. The cost is $60 per person until Sept. 7 ($70 per person on race day), and $10 from every entry will go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. For more information, visit **www.greaturbanrace.com**.

Also next Saturday is the 14th annual **Delaware Valley Run/Walk to Break the Silence on Ovarian Cancer.** About 22,280 new cases of ovarian cancer are diagnosed every year, according to the American Cancer Society, and the disease can manifest in vague symptoms or no symptoms at all. The event's 5K run, 5K walk and 1 mile walk will take place at Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park, and all proceeds will go toward local and national education and outreach efforts. Register before Sept. 2 and pay $25; on race day, the cost is $30. More information and registration details can be found at **www.occ.kintera.org/delawarevalley.** METRO/ME

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▶ Join in the fight against ovarian cancer next Saturday.

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myletters&games

Letters

letters@metro.us

Rights? Gays don't need no basic civil rights! Right?

RE: "GAYS HATE THOSE WHO OPPOSE THEIR RIGHTS!" (METRO, AUG. 23) Ms. Weisenburger, I totally agree! All us anti-gay people want to do is deprive a minority group of their basic civil rights, and for some reason they keep getting uppity about it!

Sure, they may only be asking for rights that would elevate them above the level of second-class citizens in a way that wouldn't AT ALL affect the rest of the population. AND sure, they may not be protesting free speech, but rather institutionalized discrimination. Still, I will never stop fighting against their equality. I think it's about time us anti-gay folks stand up for what the Founding Fathers would've wanted: basing laws on antiquated religious ideologies.

GEORGE WALLACE, VIA E-MAIL

The first rule of LGBT agenda: There is no LGBT agenda

Those unenlightened souls who supposedly champion free speech can't seem to grasp the fact that we LGBTers have no "agenda." We just desire the same basic rights as any heterosexual couple and refuse to be treated as second-class citizens.

It's not a sin to love another person; so how, exactly, will impeding our happiness benefit ANYONE, regardless of orientation?

BRENDAN SPILLANE, VIA E-MAIL

Shove donkeys and elephants out of the legislature's zoo

We are all aware of the presidential election that is to be held in November. We should also be aware that there is very little difference on important issues between President Obama and Mitt Romney. They both confirm that they would continue the suicidal massive government spending and intervention that would send our country in the same direction as Greece and other spendthrift nations. Each believes that, as president, he may start wars at will and may shred the Constitution's protections against surveillance, torture and indefinite detention. No matter who is elected, our country continues down the same path. The best way to get our country back is to elect constitutionalists to the legislature.

JANET MCCARTHY, VIA E-MAIL

Capitalist reality too heavy for boat

RE: "CAPITALIST BOATS TUG OTHERS WITH THEM" (METRO, AUG. 27) Capitalism is like Communism — better in theory. Since Americans have embraced Reaganomics, we have seen an insane increase in CEO pay and an everlasting extension of tax cuts for the wealthiest. Seem like the tide is quite high and "capitalistic boats" are not tugging, but drowning people in their wake. Perhaps when those at the top trickle money down to employees and the economy as supply side implies, we will truly see what Capitalism can accomplish. Until then, prepare to keep throwing expensive floatation devices — and lots of them.

JAMIE MINTON, VIA E-MAIL

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Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** It behooves you to follow your instincts when it comes to your business dealings. If nothing more, use these perceptions as support for your logical assessments.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Make it a point to take some of the slack out of a fading friendship that you haven't had much time for lately. There are few things more valuable than good chums.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** The race is likely to be won by the smartest, not necessarily the swiftest, when it comes to a career matter. Be sure to use that thinking cap of yours, so you don't trip over your own feet.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** If you're alert, you have a good chance of learning something extremely important from a good friend. However, what's said should be restricted to the parties involved.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Your determination in pursuing your objectives is impressive, but equally important is that others recognize your intentions and make it a point to get out of your way.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** If you believe it is necessary to make a difficult decision that everyone else is putting off, have the courage to stick to your guns and do so.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** This is likely to be the day when you promised yourself you'd embark on carefully laid out plans. If you know each step you must take, there isn't any reason why you shouldn't succeed.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** By staying in the middle at all times, you'll fare much better in your dealings with friends. If you're smart, you won't let it be known which side you really think is right.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Spare yourself from calling in an expensive repairman by exercising preventive maintenance. If you play it safe, you won't be sorry.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Be sure to include an extremely introverted, shy friend in your plans. If the invitation doesn't come from you, it isn't likely to be issued at all because no one else will think of it.

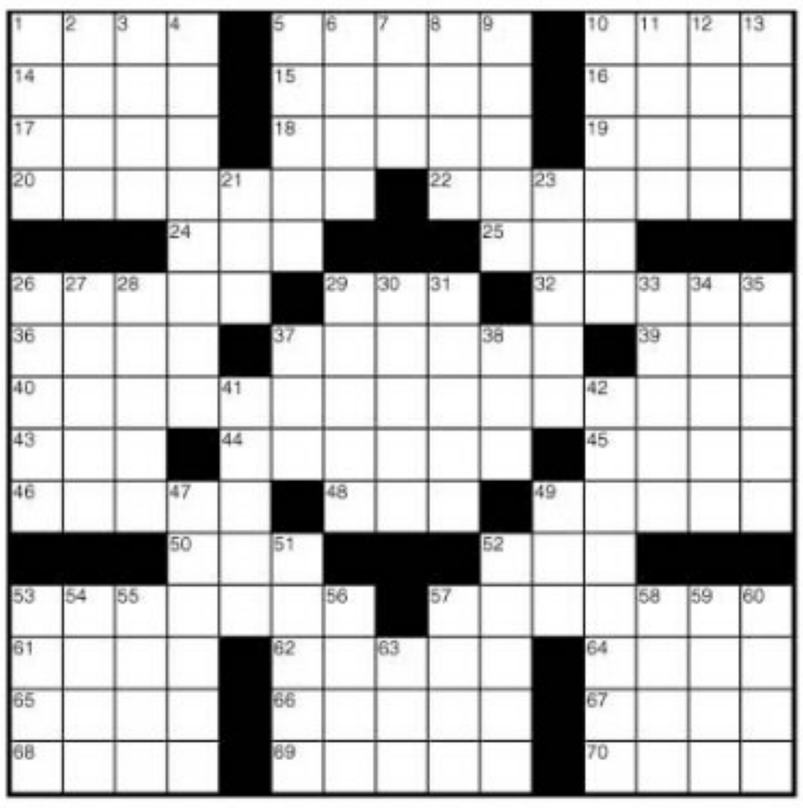
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** The entire clan is likely to profit when the shopping duties are put in your hands. Your caring nature makes you very attentive to everyone's needs.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** You should take advantage of the opportunity to clear the air with a friend when the opportunity presents itself. Don't hesitate to talk it out in detail until both parties are satisfied.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 Dilatory
5 Weight deductions
10 Pac-10 team
14 Nonsense verse writer
15 Type of coffee
16 Extreme damage
17 __ Khan (var.)
18 Flora and fauna
19 Dingy
20 Failed to clear
22 Quadratic equation, e.g.
24 Kind of instinct
25 Untold centuries
26 Tag
29 Vocalist __ Sumac
32 Carthage neighbor
36 Kind of tradition
37 Like some arguments
39 Mil. rank
40 Beatles transport (2 wds.)
43 "Hydrocarbon" suffix
44 Jungle scavengers
45 BNSF driver
46 Caterpillar, for one
48 Utter
49 Jargon
50 Memorable decade
52 Mjr. leaguer
53 Sable kin
57 Not man-made
61 Mountain refrain
62 Karate studios
64 Carryall
65 "Soapdish" actress
66 Archaeology finds
67 Plenty, to a poet
68 Finishes a skirt
69 Aerie builder
70 Treat an icy road

Down
1 Hunk of marble
2 Construction toy
3 Waikiki setting



4 Alaskan range
5 Yak's home
6 Like the Mojave
7 Guanabara Bay port
8 Is, in Avila
9 Fossil rock
10 High-priority
11 Street edge
12 Fibber
13 "Foxfire" author __ Seton
21 __ -de-sac
23 Brie's tray-mate
26 Trustworthy
27 Ice hockey venue
28 Harvest machine
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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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	4	9		7				
		4	7	8	3			
			2	9	4	5		
				4		7	2	
4		7			1		8	
1			9		7			3

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Temple, 'Nova going different directions in final Mayor's Cup

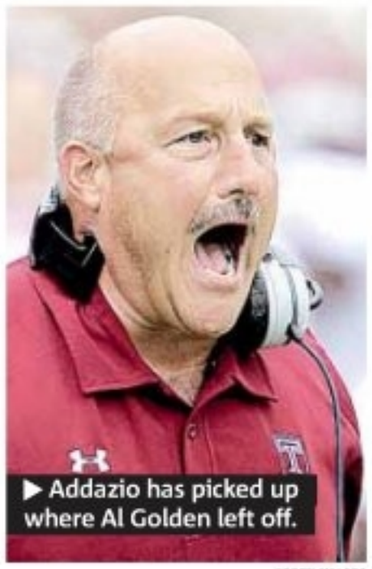
City series ending after four-year run ◗ Owls ready to embark on Big East journey ◗ Kickoff Friday night

Admittedly a dreamer, not even Steve Addazio could have foreseen this. He knew Temple was heading on the right track when he took over the reins from Al Golden.

Temple is coming off a 9-4 season, one that ended with the program's first bowl win since 1979. But all that has followed, including the chance to return to the Big East and compete on a national level ... you can only dream so big.

"I don't think in my career I've seen a faster growing college football program in the country," said Addazio. "When I look back to where we were one year ago and where we are today, it's beyond what I can sit here and tell you.

"It's tremendous what's happened here in a year, from the season we had, to our recruiting, to changes on campus, to the Big East conference. But after you get rid of that little dream, here's the reality of Year Two: Where we've been and where we've come is phenomenal, but we've got to keep going."



▶ Addazio has picked up where Al Golden left off.

GETTY IMAGES

With Villanova coming off a disastrous 2-9 season, Addazio said he expects Andy Talley's club to be better. He's also quick to point out Temple brings back only nine starters.

At the same time, it's clear Temple is on a different level from the Wildcats, which is probably why the Mayor's Cup is being abandoned after a four-year run. As good as it might be to stoke college football fever in the area, there's little upside to be gained for the Owls.

Of course, Addazio doesn't want his players thinking that way, with their Big East debut — vs. South Florida — still more than a month away.

"The competition is great for Philadelphia," said Addazio. "An intense city rivalry games makes for good football. I don't know the details [why the series wasn't extended]. Certainly, on Temple's side, we'd love to keep playing that game."

ON TV FRIDAY

Temple vs. Villanova, at the Linc, 7 p.m. (ESPN3)

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Rollins on mission to see African player in majors

Phillies shortstop hosts Ugandan Little League team • Hopes to see one play in big leagues • Spent 10 days over in Uganda, donated $10,000

GETTY IMAGES

Rollins has a unique relationship with the Ugandan Little League team. He hosted them yesterday at Citizens Bank Park.

You never forget your first visit to a major league ballpark.

"I remember seeing the blue of the Kansas City Royals the first time I went to a game at the Coliseum [in Oakland] when I was a kid," Jimmy Rollins said. "The Royals' blue, which was my favorite color, seemed to be glowing. It's something that stayed with me all these years."

Who knows what will stay with the members of the Ugandan Little League team, which witnessed its first MLB game last night as the Phillies battled the New York Mets.

"It'll be fun, but the most important thing for them is what they just experienced," Rollins said during batting practice.

Rollins is referring to their appearance in the Little League World Series. The Ugandan squad wasn't allowed to play in the 2011 Little League World Series. There were birth certificate issues since some players didn't have documentation.

"That was sad since, what can you do if rebels came into their village and set fires, and their documents are gone?" Rollins said. "They weren't trying to pull anything. Their intentions are pure. They just want to play ball."

Rollins has helped the Ugandan team before. He hooked up with director Jay Shapiro, who made the documentary "Opposite Field" about the Ugandan squad, to help bring the team to America. The Rollins Foundation donated $10,000 that enabled Uganda to host a game against a Canadian team it was set to play last summer. Rollins also visited Uganda for 10 days in January.

"It was awesome," Rollins said. "It was my first time in Africa. The people were so nice. The country is beautiful. It's 'third world,' but they love their country. The people want to make it better in Uganda. It's powerful stuff."

Rollins smiles when he speaks of the Ugandan team. He would like to help them go further up the baseball ranks.

"I would love it if someone from Uganda made it here [to the major leagues]," Rollins said. "There are Africans playing in professional football and basketball, but not in baseball yet. I would love it if I could help an African cross that threshold."

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Numbers game

Rollins is 10 hits away from 2,000th for his career. J-Roll admits that he can't wait to reach the milestone.

"Just hurry up and get here," Rollins said when asked about the mark. "Hurry up and get here."

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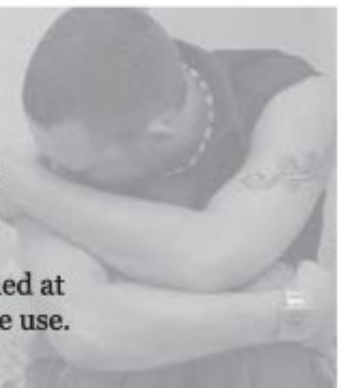

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Notices

Public Notices

NOTICE
Pursuant to the Land Recycling and Environmental Remediation Standards Act, the act of May 19, 1995, P.L. 4, No. 1995-2, notice is hereby given that 1415 Fairmount Limited Partnership has submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection a Notice of Intent to Remediate a site located at 1415 Fairmount Avenue, Philadelphia. This Notice of Intent to Remediate states that the Site will be remediated under the Site Specific Standard of the PA Act 2 program. Lead and benzo(a)pyrene in exceedence of the residential medium specific concentrations has been reported in Site soil. 1415 Fairmount Limited Partnership has indicated that the proposed remediation measures will be via demonstration of attainment through pathway elimination.
The Act provides for a 30-day public comment period for site-specific standard remediations. The 30-day comment period is initiated with the publication of this notice. During the comment period, the City of Philadelphia may submit a request to 1415 Fairmount Limited Partnership to be involved in the development of the remediation and reuse plans for the Site. The City of Philadelphia may also submit a request to 1415 Fairmount Limited Partnership during this 30-day comment period to develop and implement a public involvement plan. Copies of these requests and of any comments should also be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection at 2 East Main Street, Norristown, PA 19401.

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Tips for your apartment hunt

This summer is one of the roughest times for the real estate market ◗ Rentals are high in demand yet low in supply, making the search costly and frustrating ◗ Gary Malin, president of real estate broker Citi Habitats, tells us how to survive the renting market

Expert tip

Timing is everything: "The ideal time to look for an apartment is within 30 days of your desired move-in date. For example, if you're looking to move into your new home on Oct. 1, then you would begin the search in early September."

Do your homework

"First and foremost, preparation is key to a successful search," Malin says. "A lot of people don't do enough homework, so when they get [to an apartment they like] they realize they're missing a lot of paperwork and end up [losing out on the unit]. Typical documents needed to rent a home include your last two years of tax returns, two recent bank statements, two recent pay stubs and an employment verification letter that states your annual salary. If you are self-employed, then a letter from your accountant would be required along with tax returns. In addition, it helps to have a letter from your current landlord saying you pay your rent on time and are a good tenant."

▶ Another big issue? Some people don't think pets are a big deal, but many apartments don't allow them, says Malin. Make sure you're upfront with your broker or the apartment owner.

IMAGE SOURCE

Know your non-negotiables

"It's important to say to yourself, 'What are the things that I absolutely can't give up?' Prices are pretty high, vacancies are low, and you're probably going to have to make some sacrifices along the way. Maybe you're going to get a studio instead of a one-bedroom. It's good to ask yourself, 'What are the items where if I can't have it, it's not like I'm not going to be able to proceed?'"

If you love it, take it

If you luck into an affordable Rittenhouse rental with great light and cute neighbors, move fast. "Sometimes apartments are rented in a matter of hours," says Malin. "If you love the first apartment you see, put down an application."

Be open to other areas

Want to live within walking distance of Passyunk? You and everyone else — which is why that cramped apartment will cost you. "Don't get honed in on one area and one area only," says Malin. "You might find the ideal apartment [and] not your ideal location, but once you factor everything else in, you say to yourself, 'You know what, I'm glad I took a look at this.'"

JOANIE FERGUSON
letters@metro.us

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STIMULAS OFFERING, DEBT CONSOLIDATION AND CASH BACK

Final Notice!

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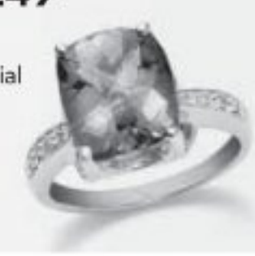

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